

Suite 15114, 1800 Century Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30345-3205

**Contact: Charles Willey** 

**Director, Public Information** 

(404) 417-2106

charles.willey@dor.ga.gov

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**February 8, 2006** 

## County Tag Offices to Issue Disabled Persons Parking Placards Beginning March 1

ATLANTA--Beginning March 1, the Georgia Department of Revenue will assume responsibility for the issuing and renewal of disabled persons parking placards within Georgia Placards will be available throughout the state at local county tag offices.

"Each Georgia County will have at least one location where individuals can obtain or renew disabled persons parking placards," said Douglas Hooper, Director of the Department's Motor Vehicle Division.

Disabled persons parking placards will not be available at Department of Driver Services Customer Service Centers after Feb. 28.

H.B. 501, which was passed during the 2005 session of the Georgia legislature, stipulated that the Department of Revenue would ultimately assume responsibility for issuing disabled persons parking placards.

To obtain a temporary, permanent, or special permanent disabled person parking placard, an individual must submit a Motor Vehicle Form MV9D, which has been signed by a Georgia Practitioner of the Healing Arts and the signature must be notarized. The form is available on the Department's Internet website at www.dor.ga.gov. In addition to the form, individuals need a Georgia driver's license or some other form of official identification to obtain their disabled persons parking placard. Individuals should obtain their placard from a county tag office in their county of residence.

Red temporary placards are valid for six months. They can be renewed by following the same procedures that were used for the initial issuance. Blue permanent placards are good indefinitely but must be turned in every two years or prior to its expiration for a new placard.

Gold special permanent placards are available for persons, who because of a physical disability drive a vehicle that has been equipped with hand controls for the operation of the vehicle's brakes and accelerator. Special permanent placards are also intended for persons who are physically disabled due to the loss of, or loss of use of both upper extremities. Georgia law requires the owner or operator of a gasoline station that sells full-service gasoline at one price and self-service gasoline at a lower price to sell the gasoline at the lower price to the holders of a special permanent placard. The station is also required to provide someone to pump the gasoline if the operator of the vehicle is not accompanied by a person over 16 years of age or older who is not mobility impaired or blind. Special permanent placards are valid for two years.

The Department and County tag agents do not charge a fee for any of the disabled persons parking placards.

The three placards are also available through the mail. Individuals should mail the required documents to Georgia Motor Vehicle Division, P. O. Box 740381, Atlanta GA 30374-0381.

Persons with questions can visit the Department's Internet website at <a href="www.dor.ga.gov">www.dor.ga.gov</a> or contact their local county tag office.